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Minutes 02/13/2008

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
FEBRUARY 13, 2008 MEETING

SPY POND COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Frances Cameron, Bill Eykamp, Deborah Goldsmith, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob Noyes, Steve Ricci, Dick Terry.

Facilitator: Steve Ricci **Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

Next meetings: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, 2008; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 9 and Tuesday, May 13; Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

Sandbar:

- No response from Selectmen to MassHighway's October 2002 letter which said the Town should initiate the project and MassHighway would cooperate. Jacob's contact with MassHighway indicates the latter's chief concern was probably not so much the cost but wanting to avoid the long and complicated permitting process and the possibility of getting stuck with extra costs if something went awry.
- Somebody needs to push the project along. The Spy Pond Committee should find out what removal method MassHighway considers best and what permits that would require.
- Disposal of the removed sand would be an issue but tests showed that it isn't contaminated.
- Selectmen, Town Manager, DPW, Planning Dept., and Con Com all need to be involved.

Weed treatment :

- No new information. Gerry Smith will re-test the pond in the spring.
- Money for treatment this year is "more or less" available, controlled by Town Manager.
- A hearing on the home rule petition for the waterbodies fund warrant article passed by Town Meeting in 2006 but not yet approved by the state will be held on February 20. Several committee members and Selectman Clarissa Rowe will attend.
- We need to go to the Finance Committee for the warrant article requesting \$15,000 for water bodies in the next budget. [8:30 p.m. Monday, March 10 in the Community Safety building.]

Miscellaneous:

- Egg addling: Bill Eykamp is ready to go as soon as the ice melts. Jacob Friis is following up on getting the permit (needed annually).
- Trails Day (Rt. 2 path), May 10: Cleanup and invasives removal, but no more construction. A planning committee is needed.
- Next meeting, March 11, will be a hands-on workshop with a speaker on promoting storm-water infiltration through rain gardens. Business meeting at 7 p.m., followed by the program.
- Fertilizer flyer draft is ready, Dave Kopans has made the changes for this year. Distribution can be piggybacked on the Neighborhood Newsletter, which goes out in early March. Committee members signed up for distribution in some of the other areas. High school students can be asked to help with distribution in the Belmont area of the watershed.

“Canoe Days”

- Jane has two likely dates, May 4 and September 4 (both Sundays) and two possibilities, July 6 and a Sunday in mid-August. The Friends of Spy Pond Park found their events in the heat of summer poorly attended and will probably participate in May and September only.
- Rentals will cost \$12 for a kayak and \$16 for a canoe per hour.
- Type of contract and permits needed are still under discussion with Park & Rec.
- Publicity by this committee, Friends of SP Park, Park & Rec.